

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

TOM BEVILL
4TH DISTRICT, ALABAMA
DEPUTY WHIP
COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
CHAIRMAN,
ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT
INTERIOR
TREASURY, POSTAL SERVICE AND
GENERAL GOVERNMENT
WASHINGTON ADDRESS:
2302 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0104
AREA CODE 202, TELEPHONE: 225-4876

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0104

August 3, 1993

Mmb
CAU - Neter
DISTRICT OFFICES:
ROOMS 102-104
THE FEDERAL BUILDING
CULLMAN, AL 35055
TELEPHONE: 734-6043
ROOM 107
THE FEDERAL BUILDING
GADSDEN, AL 35901
TELEPHONE: 546-0201
ROOM 247—FEDERAL BUILDING
1710 ALABAMA AVENUE
JASPER, AL 35501
TELEPHONE: 221-2310

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

92-266

Ms. Ellen Rafferty
Congressional Liaison
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ellen:

I recently was contacted by several of my senior citizen constituents regarding the 1992 Cable Act and its effects on the bulk rate charged at their apartment complex.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my interest on their behalf and urge that prompt consideration be given to this situation. I would greatly appreciate it if you could keep me advised of the status of the above-referenced case so that I may advise my constituent accordingly. Please respond to my Washington office.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention in this matter.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



Tom Bevill, M. C.

TB/sc

Enclosures

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Mr. Bevil

I would appreciate any help you can give us here at Princeton Park. We're on a low income. Ninety-eight per cent of residents has to pay for their prescriptions, some are shut-in or on walkers and in wheel-chairs.

We pay power and phone bills. We appreciate our Comcast and water being paid and the upkeep of our yards. As of Aug. 1, 93 we have been told we have to pay for our Cable Bill (TV) this is going to be a hardship on the most of us.

They can't afford this as we would have to cut out other necessities. It would be depressing for them not to have TV to watch. I depend on TV for my church services, as I am not ~~able~~ to get out. This is a good place to live. We have a good Manager Charlotte Birchcrest is trying to help us.

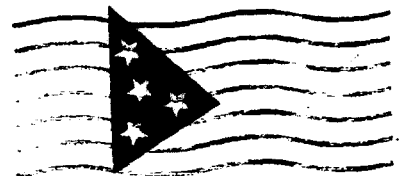
We're asking for you to look into this matter for us. Betty Lowe

Betty F. Lowe

301 Princeton Park

Apt 111

Hadsden, AL 35901



USA 19

Tom Bevil

2302 Rayburn Building

Washington D.C.

20515

INTERVIEW SHEET

GDO

7/6/93

Ms. Dorothy Ann Ingram
301 Princeton Avenue
Apt. 180
Gadsden, Al 35901 phone 546-4147

Ms. Ingram lives in Princeton Park (sec. 8 housing). She said that she has been living there 10½ years and that their cablevision has always been included in their rent.

"Now Princeton Park is not going to pay for cablevision and I can't afford to pay...I'm on a fixed income. They say its because of Congress and a law they made. Is there anyway this can be changed? I can't pay for cable."

mas

From: Gadsden Office

Date: 6/30/93

Mrs. Omie B. Hodges
301 Princeton Park-Apt. 140
Gadsden, 35901 546-2898

Mrs. Hodges, age 82, lives in Section 8 housing. The tenants "cable TV" has been included in the rent up to now.

Now, Comcast Cable has come out and disconnected everyone and each individual, who wants to have 'cable TV', will have to pay for it up front.

Mrs. Hodges, said, " I think this is terrible. The Comcast Cable people tell us that Congress fixed it where we could no longer get cable TV by just paying our rent. We are all old and/or disabled and I'm upset that Congress would do this to us."

mc

FAX a copy of your response to GDO...as I'm sure we will be receiving more calls on this. thanks.

July 29, 1993

The Honorable Tom Bevill
2302 Rayburn Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Sir:

Because you have always shown such an interest and concern for the residents of Princeton Park, I was hoping you could help us with a problem. I recently received a letter from Comcast, our local cable company informing me that they could no longer offer us a discounted bulk rate, due to the Cable Act of 1992.

Congressman Bevill, I'm sure you are aware that the residents of Princeton Park are elderly, disabled, and handicapped. They all live on a fixed incomes. I know of residents who spend more than half of their incomes every month on medical expenses. Many of them are house bound and television is their only entertainment. Many are unable to attend church on sundays and television is their only access to a worship service.

I would appreciate your looking into this matter to see if there might be some exception or waiver whereby the residents of Princeton Park can continue to enjoy Cable T.V. at the discounted rate.

Thanking you, in advance.



Charlotte Gilchrist
Manager
Princeton Park Apartments
301 Princeton Avenue
Gadsden, Al. 35901

c:c

enclosure/Comcast letter

Comcast Cablevision, Inc.
241 South Third Street
Gadsden, Alabama 35909
(205) 547-8821



May 28, 1993

Princeton Apartments
301 Princeton Ave
Gadsden, AL 35901-2651

Dear Sir:

The Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992, approved by Congress on October 5, requires cable television companies to make major changes in how we conduct our business. These changes will affect the programs we can provide our customers, our rates, and how customers are billed.

In the past we have been able to offer to Princeton Apartments our cable services discounted as a bulk account. The Cable Act of 1992 requires cable operators to "have a rate structure for the provision of cable service that is uniform throughout the geographic area in which cable service is provided over its cable system." Accordingly, effective June 21, 1993, we will no longer be able to offer our cable services as a bulk account. Our cable services will be offered to your tenants individually and will be billed to them directly.

In the next few days, we will begin contacting your tenants to offer our cable services. We will bill you for only 21 days of June under the bulk agreement and our billing to the individual dweller will begin July 1, 1993.

Please be assured that Comcast intends to fully comply with this Law, as well as the rules and regulations promulgated by the Federal Communication Commission (FCC). Inevitably, our customers will find some of the changes confusing and disruptive. We intend to work with you to make your tenant's inconvenience as little as possible. Thank you for your support.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Pickens', written over the printed name.

Jim Pickens
General Manager